

AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A parking lever apparatus of a vehicle, comprising:
a lever assembly rotatably connected on a bracket by a hinge, the bracket being fixed to a mounting member securable to a vehicle body and a handle being connected to a distal end of the lever assembly;

a parking cable connected to the lever assembly to be pulled by operation of the lever assembly for actuation of a brake mechanism; and

a casing connected to the mounting member and covering part of the lever assembly, the casing including a guide opening through which the handle and part of the lever assembly is passed,

wherein a slider of a predetermined length is mounted to a lower area of the lever assembly, and a guide rail into which the slider is inserted is formed in the casing, the slider undergoing a sliding movement within the guide rail such that when the lever assembly is operated, the slider covers a lower portion of the guide opening of the casing the lower portion being lower than the lever assembly.

2. (Original) The parking lever apparatus of claim 1, wherein the slider is made of a soft, flexible material.

3. (Original) The parking lever apparatus of claim 2, wherein the guide rail has a generally horizontal end at its distal portion from the hinge, and it rises as it gets closer to the hinge.

4. (Original) The parking lever apparatus of claim 2, wherein the guide rail comprises a convex portion that is convex with respect to an interior side of the casing.

5. (Original) The parking lever apparatus of claim 2, wherein a projection is formed at an end of the slider, and a stopper for interfering with the projection is formed at the guide rail.

6. (Original) The parking lever apparatus of claim 3, wherein a projection is formed at an end of the slider, and a stopper for interfering with the projection is formed at the guide rail.

7. (Original) The parking lever apparatus of claim 4, wherein a projection is formed at an end of the slider, and a stopper for interfering with the projection is formed at the guide rail.

8. (Original) The parking lever apparatus of claim 5, further comprising a cover for covering the guide rail, wherein the stopper is formed on a lower side of the cover.

9. (Original) The parking lever apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a cover for covering the guide rail, wherein the stopper is formed on a lower side of the cover.

10. (Original) The parking lever apparatus of claim 7, further comprising a cover for covering the guide rail, wherein the stopper is formed on a lower side of the cover.